

## RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

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### Wyoming Board of Agriculture Minutes March 15, 2006 Conference Call

Members Present:

Helen Jones, President  
Spencer Ellis, Vice President  
Lee Otto  
Jim Mickelson  
David Graham  
Jack Corson  
David Largent

Members Absent:

John Etchepare, Director, WY Dept. of Agriculture  
Gene Hardy  
Emily Horton  
Paige Smith, Governor Freudenthal's Office  
Frank Galey, Dean, UW College of Agriculture

WDA Staff Present:

Muff Parker, Recording Secretary  
Jim Schwartz

Jim Schwartz reviewed the Predator legislation explaining there is a refund provision. He feels it will be unpopular with the cattle producers because they could be assessed \$1 if their local predator board decided to go with the new program. Of course if they don't elect to do that, they will assess what they have been. Jim asked the members to contact their local predatory board members to see what the support was. Jack Corson said he thinks the cow/calf producers will buy into it, but the yearling operation probably won't. Those who ask for refunds will be charged if they ask their local boards for help with the predators. This bill goes into effect when signed, but funding won't come until July, so that is when it will become staffed. Jim also talked about some of the other legislation that didn't make it this year. He said the youth forum is in Douglas on May 15 and the ag committee would like to be invited. Grazing on the Grizzly and Daily allotments are being reduced and a grass bank is being developed. Grant is over there today to find out more.

The board asked Muff to contact Slade Franklin and Skip Lewis to see if they would be able to join them on the next conference call to further clarify the removal of the Mountain Pine Beetle from the Designated List.

Helen reminded the members to have updates ready next time regarding the Living Legacy Program.

The members would like Mike Besson to come to the meeting in April to discuss the small water projects. Jim will prepare some talking points for the board to consider when talking to Mike.

The members reviewed the application for the Southeast and Northeast youth positions. Their recommendations were taken to the Governor by John.

**Jim Mickelson made a motion to approve the extension request from Lincoln Conservation District to their water quality grant. Seconded by Jack Corson. All voted in favor. Motion carried.**

Jim Schwartz said the task force for the livestock board is being put together. The members asked Jim Schwartz to write a letter in support for Jim Mickelson to be appointed.

The members would like to change the conference call from March 29 to March 31 to accommodate Skip and Slade.

There being no additional business. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Helen Jones, President

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Date

Attachment:

Lincoln Conservation District Water Quality extension request.